

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (currently amended): A method for increasing the protein concentration and/or rate of protein synthesis in ~~promoting recovery~~ of a specific organ of a mammal, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a form of a dietary milk protein hydrolysate which increases protein concentration or rate of protein synthesis in the specific organ; and

administering a therapeutically effective amount of the dietary milk protein hydrolysate to the mammal.

Claim 31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (previously presented): The method of Claim 30 wherein the specific organ is the small intestine and the dietary milk protein hydrolysate has a degree of hydrolysis of at least 30%.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 30 wherein the specific organ is the duodenum and wherein the protein hydrolysate comprises more than about 30% by weight of di- and tri-peptides and has a non-protein nitrogen concentration of about 85% or more of total nitrogen.

Claim 34 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 30 wherein the specific organ is the jejunum and the protein hydrolysate has a degree of hydrolysis of about 15% or more.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method of Claim ~~34~~ 30 wherein the dietary milk protein hydrolysate comprises more than about 20% by weight of a di- and tri-peptides and a non-protein nitrogen concentration of about 60% or more of total nitrogen.

Claim 36 (canceled)

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method of Claim ~~36~~30 wherein the mammal is suffering from muscular atrophy.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The method of Claim ~~36~~30 wherein the mammal is suffering from a compromised gut function.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of Claim 30 wherein the dietary milk protein hydrolysate is provided in a nutritional formula.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of Claim 39 wherein the dietary milk protein hydrolysate is acceptable for premature babies having underdeveloped intestines.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of Claim 40 wherein the dietary milk protein hydrolysate comprises more than about 30% by weight of di- and tri-peptides and has a non protein nitrogen concentration of about 85% or more of total nitrogen.